



## January 2020 – Upcoming Grant Opportunities

**January 6: EPA Environmental Education Model Grant Program:** The purpose of the Environmental Education Local Grants Program in Region 5 is to support locally-focused environmental education projects that increase public awareness and knowledge about environmental and conservation issues and provide the skills that participants in its funded projects need to make informed decisions and take responsible actions toward the environment. Since 1992, EPA has distributed between \$2 and \$3.5 million in grant funding per year, supporting more than 3,700 grants from 10 regions. The total estimated funding for U.S. EPA Region 5 is up to \$300,000. The Region expects to award three or four grants for between \$50,000, and \$100,000 each. Region 5 covers the states of Illinois (IL), Indiana (IN), Michigan (MI), Minnesota (MN), Ohio (OH) and Wisconsin (WI). Must demonstrate non-federal matching funds of at least 25% of the total cost of the project.

<https://www.epa.gov/education/environmental-education-ee-grants>

**January 30: NFWF Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Program:** The NFWF, along with the National Association of Counties and the Wildlife Habitat Council, in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, USDA Forest Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, FedEx, Southern Company, Bank of America and PG&E, support this grant program. Approximately \$1,500,000 is available nationwide for projects meeting program priorities. There is one round of full proposals annually for this program. Awards range from \$20,000 to \$50,000 with an average size of \$30,000 and 40-50 grants awarded per year. Grants should span 12 to 18 months in length with a start date in late summer/early fall 2020. The Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration grant program seeks to develop community capacity to sustain local natural resources for future generations by providing modest financial assistance to diverse local partnerships focused on improving water quality, watersheds and the species and habitats they support. Ecological improvements may include wetland, riparian, forest and coastal habitat restoration; wildlife conservation, community tree canopy enhancement, water quality monitoring and green infrastructure best management practices for managing run-off. Projects should also increase access to the benefits of nature, reduce the impact of environmental hazards and engage local communities, particularly underserved communities, in project planning, outreach and implementation. NFWF may use a mix of public and private funding sources to support any grant made through this program. Projects that exceed the minimum 1:1 matching ratio will be more competitive. Geographic focus is nation-wide, but they list private corporate donors who have specific focuses and FedEx lists New Berlin WI as a priority.

<https://www.nfwf.org/fivestar/Pages/fivestar2020rfp.aspx>

## February 1: DNR Lake Protection Grants-Wetland and Shoreline Habitat

**Restoration:**Wetland and shoreland habitat restoration grants are intended to provide financial assistance to protect or improve the water quality or natural ecosystem of a lake by restoring adjacent degraded wetlands or tributary to lakes. Shoreline habitat restoration grants are intended to provide financial assistance, including incentive payments, to owners of developed lake front lots to re-establish riparian habitat. Maximum amount of grant funding is 75% of the

total project costs, not to exceed \$100,000

<https://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/documents/SurfaceWater/LakeProtectionGrantOverview.pdf>

**February 1: DNR River Protection-River Management Grants:** Cost-sharing to eligible applicants in the implementation of management activities that will help protect or improve streams, rivers, and riverine ecosystems. Eligible Projects: Development of local regulations or ordinances that will protect or improve the water quality of a river or its natural ecosystem; installation of practices to control nonpoint sources of pollution; river restoration projects including dam removal, restoration of in-stream or shoreland habitat; an activity that is approved by the DNR and that is needed to implement a recommendation made as a result of a river plan to protect or improve the water quality of a river or its natural ecosystem; education, planning and design activities necessary for the implementation of a management project. Maximum amount of grant funding is 75% of the total project costs, not to exceed \$50,000.

<https://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/documents/SurfaceWater/RiverGrantOverview.pdf>

**February 1: DNR Established Population Control Projects:** Intended to assist applicants in eradicating or substantially reducing established populations of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) to protect and restore native species communities. Established populations are defined as substantial reproducing populations of AIS that are not pioneer populations. Eligible Projects: Activities recommended in a DNR-approved control plan including monitoring, education, and prevention activities. If participating in a DNR designated program, such as the Purple Loosestrife bio-control projects, no prior plan approval is required. Maximum amount of the grant funding is 75% of the total project costs, not to exceed \$200,000.

<https://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/documents/SurfaceWater/AISGrantOverview.pdf>

**February 11: Sustain Our Great Lakes Pre-Proposals:** There will be a webinar on January 16<sup>th</sup>. Projects categories: Restore and Enhance Stream and Riparian Habitat, Restore and Enhance Coastal Wetland Habitat, Expand Green Stormwater Infrastructure in Great Lakes Communities, Maintain and Enhance Benefits of Habitat Restoration through Invasive Species Control, New in 2020: Restore and Preserve Natural Areas and Biodiversity in Wisconsin's Lake Michigan Watershed. Grants awarded during 2018 ranged from \$100,000 \$1 million.

<https://www.nfwf.org/greatlakes/Pages/home.aspx>

**February 14: EPA Trash-Free Water Project:** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that it is seeking applications under a newly developed Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) grant program focused on keeping trash out of the Great Lakes. Approximately \$2 million is available through the Trash-Free Great Lakes program to fund up to 13 projects. Ten grants are available in Great Lakes beach and shoreline cleanup projects, which could include funding for single entities to organize clean ups in multiple communities. The maximum grant amount is \$300,000 per project. Three grants are available for Great Lakes harbor and river cleanup projects, which could include the purchase of trash collection and removal equipment capable of operating in water. The maximum grant amount is \$500,000 per project.

<https://www.epa.gov/great-lakes-funding/glri-trash-free-waters-fy2020-request-applications-rfa>

**February 21: North American Wetlands Conservation Act Standard Grants:** Past grants have funded partnerships to carry out wetlands conservation projects in the United States, Canada, and Mexico for the benefit of wetlands-associated migratory birds and other wildlife, to provide long-term protection, restoration, and/or enhancement of wetlands and associated uplands habitats. <http://www.fws.gov/birds/grants/north-american-wetland-conservation-act/how-to-apply-for-a-nawca-grant.php>

**February 21: GLFT Habitat Protection and Restoration: Targeted Land and Capital Efforts:**

The goal of the Great Lakes Fishery Trust (GLFT) Habitat Protection and Restoration funding stream is to preserve essential habitat; protect, restore, and stabilize important fish habitats; and increase habitat availability. This RFP process will be used for the disbursement of up to \$500,000 in 2020. The GLFT pursues these efforts through direct investment in specific places with degraded or vulnerable habitat, through connectivity enhancements, and through use of decision-support tools that suggest optimal strategies for investing in habitat. Funding is distributed through a combination of funder-directed and competitive grants.

<https://www.gfft.org/opportunities/68>

**April 30: Lawrence Foundation:** Private family foundation focused on making grants primarily for environmental, human services and other causes. Assets are currently about \$4 million. As of our June 2016 cycle, they have received over 10,000 grant applications since the inception of our foundation and approved 525 of those applications for a total of \$4,578,593. Grants are awarded in June (April 30 application deadline) and December (November 1 application deadline). No geographic restriction, annual 990 federal tax shows grants went to more than 20 environmental groups. <https://thelawrencefoundation.org/apply-for-a-grant/>

OTHERS/NO DEADLINE:

**Fund for Lake Michigan:** In 2019 the Fund will accept pre-proposals on a rolling basis throughout the year, with quarterly board meetings to decide which projects to choose in March, June, September, and December. Submit pre-proposals to the Fund on a time-frame that works best for you. They estimate a grant request will take two to five months to process from pre-proposal to when they would issue a grant contract. There is still a two-step grant making process. All grant materials, including pre-proposals, submitted electronically through Foundant. Awards between \$750,000 and \$1,000,000 in grants each quarter. Applicants may submit more than one pre-proposal during the year. Priority to on-the-ground projects that have near-term, direct and quantifiable impacts on water quality in the Lake Michigan watershed. These projects include protecting critical natural habitats, reducing polluted runoff and generally making water resources more swimmable, fishable and drinkable. Also supports water quality monitoring and planning that informs and leads to on-the-ground restoration and water-quality improvement projects. Priority also given to Projects in Southeastern Wisconsin.

<https://fundforlakemichigan.org/online-application/>

**Freshwater Futures Grants:**

Freshwater Future implements the Great Lakes-Healing Our Water Coalition (HOW) grant making program to provide support to groups working toward aquatic restoration efforts in the Great Lakes region. The goal of the program is to provide capacity to groups for their efforts to secure larger-scale federal funding for their overall restoration projects such as the clean-up of sewage and toxic sediments, restoration of damaged habitat, protection of high quality habitat, and control and prevention of invasive species. You must become a member, must have less than \$200,000 budget or be working on smaller advocacy projects. In 2019 offers grants (with no deadline). **Special Opportunity Grants** are for grassroots projects that impact a Great Lakes Watershed. These grants can be used to fund up to \$750 USD of a project. Special Opportunity Grant (SOG) requests are processed differently than traditional grants to help ensure a quick turnaround. **Great Lakes Network Grants** are grants of up to \$1,000 to support work that is

required to achieve an important Great Lakes policy goal. Examples include hiring a consultant to draft a response to a government policy proposal, supporting an awareness campaign in the lead up to an important decision, or hiring an expert to clarify technical information. Applicants must be a member of the Great Lakes Network. <https://freshwaterfuture.org/members-login-page/members/online-grant-application/>

**RBC Blue Water Project Grants:** Launched in 2007, the Royal Bank of Canada's Blue Water Project is a 10-year global charitable commitment of \$50 million to help provide access to drinkable, swimmable, fishable water. Community action grants range from \$1,000 to \$10,000 and are awarded to local or community-based organizations. The project focuses on supporting initiatives that help protect and preserve water in towns, cities and urbanized areas with populations of more than 10,000 people that focus on: (1) Improved control and management of urban storm or rain water; (2) Efficient and innovative use (or capture and reuse) of water; (3) Protection and restoration of urban waterways; (4) Improved urban water quality. The application period for 2018 Community Action Grants is now open and no deadline is specified. <http://www.rbc.com/community-sustainability/environment/rbc-blue-water/index.html>

**Great Lakes Protection Fund:** Created in 1989 by the governors of the Great Lakes states to help them protect and restore their shared natural resource. The Fund is the first private, permanent endowment created to benefit a specific ecosystem. Since inception, the fund has awarded more than \$75 million to support 265 projects to improve the health of the Great Lakes ecosystem. More than 1000 institutions and thousands of innovative individuals have participated in projects that test new ideas, take risks, and share what is learned. We do not have specific funding programs or formal deadlines. We are always open to discussing ideas and we can be nimble (e.g., funding vehicles, timeframes) when an opportunity presents itself. Think of us as an investor more than a charity. Many of the investments we make are called grants, but more closely resemble seed capital or angel investments. We will work with you to align your innovation with the funding instrument that will help your idea make a big difference. We will dedicate considerable time up front with you, prior to and during proposal development, to help hone your strategy and expand your collaborative team. <http://qlpf.org/get-funding/>

**Brico Fund:** "The importance of protecting the environment, with a focus on water quality and conservation, is a cornerstone of Brico Fund's grant making. Our environment funding focuses on conservation of the natural environment of Wisconsin, and the safety and welfare for all citizens." Organizations working on these issues will be considered for support: Improvement and protection of water quality and quantity; Reduction of disproportional impacts of pollution in disadvantaged communities; and climate change mitigation and adaptation. The application process is all online and there are no submission deadlines. Typically, an organization can request funding once in a 12-month period. <http://www.bricofund.org/index.php/overview/>

**Mitsubishi Corporation Foundation Grants:** Founded in 1992, the mission of the Mitsubishi Corporation Foundation for the Americas is to promote environmental causes throughout the Americas in the broadest sense, which encompasses both the physical and social environments in which we live. Supports a wide range of projects in the following four categories: Biodiversity Conservation; Sustainable Development; Environmental Justice; Environmental Education. Has committed \$275,000 in support of bird habitat conservation since 1998. Proposals are accepted year-round; ideal timing for proposals is during the first quarter of the calendar year. <http://www.mitsubishicorp.com/us/en/csr/foundation.html>

**Cornell Douglas Foundation Grants:** Provides grants to organizations that advocate for environmental health and justice, encourage stewardship of the environment, and further respect for sustainability of resources. The average grant amount is \$10,000. Areas of Interest: Environmental Health & Justice; Land Conservation; Sustainability of Resources; Mountaintop Mining Removal; Visionary Design; Watershed Protection. Its environmental focus includes Animals/Wildlife, Biodiversity, Conservation, Environmental Health, Environmental Justice, Habitats/Ecosystems, Plants, Pollution, Storm-water, Sustainability, Trees/Forests, Water, Watershed. <http://www.cornelldouglas.org/apply/>

**Wells Fargo Clean Technology and Innovation Grants Program:** Five categories eligible for funding include Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, Greener Buildings, Alternative Transportation, Sustainable Agriculture and also, Water Quality and Resources, which includes support for “environmental improvements taking place in urban areas such as waterway restoration, storm water management...cleaning up waterways and beach fronts, educational programs that help us understand where our water comes from...Engaging the public and communities about the health of their environment.” Now funds through an invitation-only process where Wells Fargo engages specific institutions whose work aligns with their giving criteria. To submit a topic for consideration, email a brief description (150 words or less) to: [environmental.affairs@wellsfargo.com](mailto:environmental.affairs@wellsfargo.com) Funding is typically \$50k to \$200k per project. Only one-time grants to non-profits. <https://www.wellsfargo.com/about/csr/ea/environmental-giving>

**Surdna Foundation:** The Sustainable Environments “program seeks to support communities of color and low-wealth communities to direct infrastructure and land use investment dollars, drive decision-making processes and design policy solutions because those who are disproportionately impacted by environmental and climate inequity have the most powerful solutions to resolve these inequities”. Has given grants of \$50,000 to \$1 million. No deadline for letters of intent; will be reviewed in 90 days. <https://surdna.org/prospective-grantees/>

**Antonia Foundation:** Wisconsin Foundation, c/o Arnow & Associates, 7402 N. Seneca Road Fox Point, WI 53217, 964-4000. The Antonia Foundation was founded in 1991 by Annette Marra in Fox Point, Wisconsin, and is dedicated to wildlife conservation and the restoration of natural habitats. Board members include Annette Marra, John M. Marra, Frederic G. Friedman, F. Michael Arnow. Preference is given to innovative projects that offer solutions to problems or special opportunities. Gave \$239,635 in grants in 2018 (most recent 990), ranging from \$2,500 to \$47,000, and has given to Riveredge Nature Center, International Crane Foundation, Urban Ecology Center, Mequon Nature Preserve.

**James E Dutton Foundation:** Based in Merrill, WI. Since its inception in 2005, has awarded dozens of grants to conservation organizations, including support for wetland restoration, rain gardens, invasive species removal, various environmental education projects, etc. Federal 990 form shows it gave out \$116,000 in 2015 (most recent), grants of up to \$25,000 that year. Accept proposals on a rolling basis, June 12th, October 9th for 2019. <http://www.jameseduttonfoundation.org/grants/>

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Program:** A voluntary, incentive-based program that provides technical and financial assistance to coastal communities and landowners to restore and protect fish and wildlife habitat on public and private lands. Not a conventional grants program, does not solicit projects through a request for proposals. Instead, projects are developed strategically, in coordination with partners, and with substantial involvement from Service field biologists. A “cooperator” (private or public landowner) works one-on-one with a

local service biologist to develop a plan, and cooperative agreement for minimum of ten years is signed. <http://www.fws.gov/coastal/faq.html>

**Graham-Martin Foundation:** Based in Evansville, WI. Website offers little info including deadline) also does not appear to be up now, but foundation does provide matching grants for rain gardens and native plants. Federal 990 from 2016 shows its annual about 46,000. Has given grants to MMSD, Pheasants Forever, Madison Audubon Society. 608.226.2553  
<http://www.grahammartin.org/index.html>

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